



Indiana Crop & Weather Report

United States Dept of Agriculture

Indiana Agricultural
Statistics Service

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CROP REPORT FOR WEEK ENDING APRIL 21

AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY

Unseasonably warm temperatures along with wind helped dry out wet soils during the week. Farmers took advantage of the favorable conditions to accomplish fieldwork in fields dry enough to support heavy equipment, according to the Indiana Agricultural Statistics Service. Corn planting is underway in scattered fields around the state. The best progress was made in the northwestern region of the state. Tillage of soils, applying anhydrous, spraying and spreading of fertilizer were major activities taking place during the week. The warmer temperatures helped winter wheat growth, along with forage crops and pastures. Rain in some areas, along with strong thunderstorms in the southern regions occurred during the weekend.

FIELD CROPS REPORT

There were 2.2 **days suitable for fieldwork**. Many fields remained too wet to till or apply fertilizer during most of the week. Two percent of the **corn** acreage is planted compared with 10 percent last year and 7 percent for the 5-year average.

Other activities during the week were preparing equipment, planting mint, seeding oats, purchasing supplies, moving grain to market, hauling manure, cleaning ditches, clearing fence rows and taking care of livestock.

Fifty-two percent of the **winter wheat** acreage is **jointed** compared with 53 percent last year and 59 percent for the 5-year average. Winter wheat **condition** is rated 61 percent good to excellent, compared with 57 percent last week and below the 75 percent a year ago at this time. Wheat growth and development improved last week.

LIVESTOCK, PASTURE AND RANGE REPORT

Pasture condition is rated 12 percent excellent, 53 percent good, 30 percent fair, 4 percent poor and 1 percent very poor. Pastures continue to improve. **Hay** supplies are rated 1 percent very short, 11 percent short, 77 percent adequate and 11 percent surplus, unchanged from a week earlier. Livestock are in mostly good condition. Calving remains active. Spring lambing is winding down.

CROP PROGRESS TABLE

Crop	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5-Year Avg
Percent				
Corn Planted	2	0	10	7
Winter Wheat Jointed	52	26	53	59

CROP CONDITION TABLE

Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Percent					
Pasture	1	4	30	53	12
Winter Wheat 2002	1	7	31	48	13
Winter Wheat 2001	0	3	22	60	15

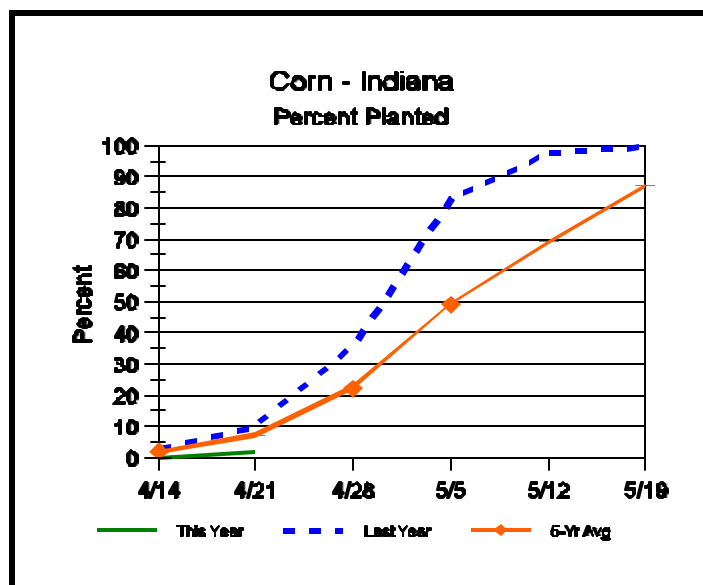
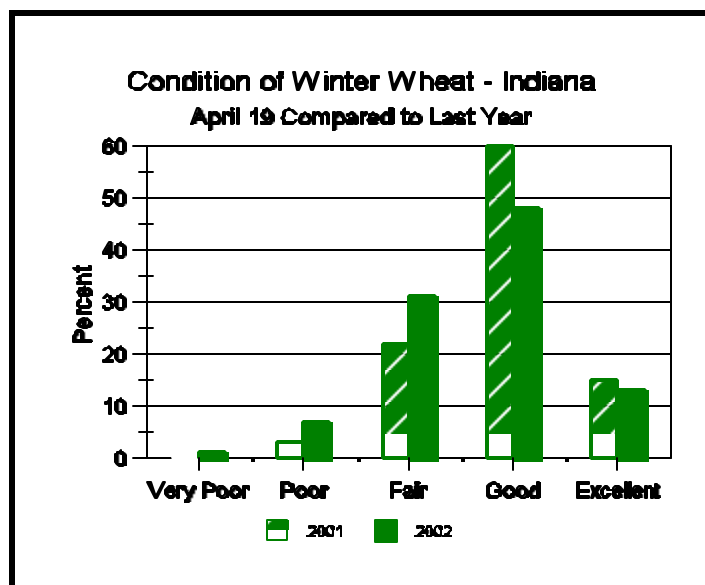
SOIL MOISTURE & DAYS SUITABLE FOR FIELDWORK TABLE

	This Week	Last Week	Last Year
Percent			
Topsoil			
Very Short	0	0	3
Short	0	0	12
Adequate	50	40	67
Surplus	50	60	18
Subsoil			
Very Short	0	0	4
Short	3	3	18
Adequate	63	62	69
Surplus	34	35	9
Days Suitable	2.2	1.5	3.4

CONTACT INFORMATION

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Crop Progress



Other Agricultural Comments And News

What About Seed Attacking Insects?

- Early planting and slow germination increases seed damage from insects
- High residue and cool, wet field conditions may warrant the use of seed protectants
- Seed protectants most often only protect the seed, not the roots
- Don't use both a seed treatment containing an insecticide and a soil insecticide at planting

Most of our attention to soil insects is given to corn rootworm, what about those other critters? Wireworms, grubs, maggots and seedcorn beetles occasionally damage seed and seedlings. Obviously, the longer that germination is delayed, the greater the chance for insect damage to occur. How about the seed that will be planted during the next window of opportunity, should it receive a seed treatment to protect from these occasional pests? The following discussion is for these other soil insects, NOT ROOTWORM.

Planting in fields with less than adequate drainage, in set aside acreage (such as CRP land), or fields with high crop residue or where high rates of manure have been applied, the use of a seed protectant may be a good investment against seed attacking insects. Seed protection will be critical if our cool weather pattern continues and soil temperatures remain at less than ideal levels for rapid seed germination and plant growth.

Planter box seed treatments, such as Kernel Guard Supreme and KickStart VP are registered for both corn and soybean. The insecticide permethrin, same active ingredient in the foliar insecticides Ambush and Pounce, in these seed treatments should provide adequate control of seed maggots and beetles. In limited trials, permethrin has shown some protection from wireworms. Because seed treatments do not protect the plant once it sprouts, there is *no control* of white grubs, cutworms, rootworms, or high populations of wireworms.

Pre-applied insecticide seed treatments are now available for corn producers. Industry and university trials have shown some promising results with Gaucho, Prescribe, and ProShield against wireworms and seedcorn maggot. As well, the systemic activity of Gaucho and Prescribe provides some early suppression/control of corn flea beetle. Certainly the biggest question for producers and researchers is how effective these products are against white grubs. Limited trials have shown a mixed bag of results. Most likely there will be some suppression of grubs, but not control.

Where rootworm soil insecticides are applied at planting, the use of a planter box or pre-applied seed treatment is not necessary.

John Obermeyer, Rich Edwards, and Larry Bledsoe, Dept of Entomology, Purdue University.

(Additional Article on Page 4)

Weather Information Table

Week ending Sunday April 21, 2002

Station	Past Week Weather Summary Data							Accumulation				
	Air				Precip.		Avg	April 1, 2002 thru				
	Temperature				Total		4 in	April 21, 2002				
	Hi	Lo	Avg	DFN	Total	Days	Soil Temp	Precipitation			GDD Base 50°F	
								Total	DFN	Days	Total	DFN
Northwest (1)												
Valparaiso_AP_I	88	41	67	+18	1.87	5		3.87	+1.10	11	165	+125
Wanatah	87	39	66	+18	2.18	4	66	4.05	+1.39	10	139	+110
Wheatfield	89	42	67	+19	0.59	2		2.61	-0.05	8	156	+125
Winamac	86	41	67	+17	0.67	3	67	2.46	-0.13	12	147	+104
North Central(2)												
Chalmers_5W	87	41	67	+15	0.48	3		2.11	-0.35	12	150	+88
Plymouth	87	40	67	+16	1.26	3		3.56	+0.86	11	149	+101
South_Bend	87	41	67	+18	0.90	4		2.48	-0.24	12	156	+122
Young_America	86	40	69	+19	0.51	2		2.75	+0.36	8	166	+125
Northeast (3)												
Columbia_City	84	37	66	+18	0.59	3	62	3.39	+0.85	10	145	+118
Fort_Wayne	87	41	69	+19	0.67	3		2.55	+0.18	9	184	+147
West Central (4)												
Greencastle	85	44	68	+16	1.21	2		2.56	+0.04	8	163	+92
Perrysville	85	42	68	+16	1.00	2	63	3.03	+0.33	8	171	+115
Terre_Haute_AFB	85	51	70	+17	1.15	4		2.21	-0.45	9	212	+139
W_Lafayette_6NW	86	39	69	+19	0.69	3	66	3.20	+0.66	11	170	+126
Central (5)												
Brookville	87	44	69	+18	1.62	3		4.39	+1.77	9	195	+146
Eagle_Creek_AP	85	44	70	+17	0.62	3		2.86	+0.31	9	198	+132
Greenfield	87	40	69	+18	0.97	3		3.66	+0.90	12	181	+131
Indianapolis_AP	85	45	71	+18	0.48	2		1.82	-0.73	7	214	+148
Indianapolis_SE	85	41	70	+17	1.26	2		3.23	+0.69	7	184	+125
Tipton_Ag	85	41	68	+19	0.80	2	61	2.31	-0.39	10	161	+128
East Central (6)												
Farmland	85	36	68	+19	1.01	4	62	3.31	+0.82	12	161	+131
New_Castle	83	39	66	+17	1.15	3		4.09	+1.28	9	147	+114
Southwest (7)												
Evansville	85	61	73	+17	0.85	4		3.71	+0.93	9	262	+139
Freelandville	85	55	71	+18	0.52	3		2.56	-0.06	8	210	+125
Shoals	86	56	70	+17	1.01	4		2.82	+0.02	8	198	+114
Stendal	86	60	72	+17	0.34	3		4.02	+0.95	8	232	+131
Vincennes_5NE	86	54	73	+19	1.34	2	65	3.04	+0.42	6	223	+138
South Central(8)												
Spencer_Ag	85	51	69	+17	1.25	4		3.89	+1.15	10	172	+111
Tell_City	88	62	74	+18	0.85	3		3.20	-0.17	7	270	+161
Southeast (9)												
Milan_5NE	83	47	68	+17	2.97	4		5.08	+2.46	10	173	+124
Scottsburg	86	54	71	+17	1.05	5		2.77	-0.15	9	209	+124

DFN = Departure From Normal (Using 1961-90 Normals Period).

GDD = Growing Degree Days.

Precipitation (Rainfall or melted snow/ice) in inches.

Precipitation Days = Days with precip of .01 inch or more.

Air Temperatures in Degrees Fahrenheit.

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Black Cutworm, They're Here

- Moths making their annual arrival into the Midwest
- Impregnated moths are seeking weedy fields to lay their eggs
- Early weed control goes a long way in suppressing this pest

Several black cutworm intensive captures, 9 or more moths caught over a 2-nights, have been captured during the week of April 8 (see "Black Cutworm Adult Pheromone Trap Report" and "2002 Black Cutworm Pheromone Trap Locations"). This correlated well with the warmer temperatures from the Southwest that swept across the Midwest and brought black cutworm moths from Mexico and Texas. The timing of their arrival is normal, the moth flights of mid to later April are usually the ones we carefully monitor.

New arriving moths are looking for the perfect place, i.e., winter annuals, for egg laying. Fields that are now

covered in chickweed, mustards, etc. are at highest risk for cutworm damage. Remember, corn and soybean are not the black cutworm's food of choice. These are normally the only plants remaining by the time larvae have hatched and weeds are dead. Research has shown that cutworm larvae starve if weeds are destroyed 2 - 3 weeks before corn emergence. This says something for early burn-down herbicides in the management of this pest. Look for updated pheromone trap captures and heat unit tracking of cutworm development in future issues of the Pest & Crop.

John Obermeyer, Rich Edwards, and Larry Bledsoe, Dept. of Entomology, Purdue University. This article also contains a graphic map and table showing the number of Black Cutworm traps throughout the state. The map and table can be viewed at: http://www.entm.purdue.edu/entomology/ext/targets/p&c/P&C2002/P&C4_2002.pdf (pgs. 3 & 4).

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